Message

**From:** Anthony J. Sabino [sabinolaw@optonline.net]
**Sent:** 5/24/2013 8:10:58 PM
**To:** 'Carmine Vasile' [gfx-ch@msn.com]; 'Emily Dooley' [emily.dooley@newsday.com]; 'Editor_NEWS12' [news12li@news12.com]
**CC:** 'Ethan Irwin' [e Personal Email / Ex. 6 ; 'SANDRA ARCANGELO' [c Personal Email / Ex. 6 t]; 'Claudia Borecky' [c Personal Email / Ex. 6 n]; 'Phil Franco_2' [pf Personal Email / Ex. 6 n]; Dalzell, Sally [Dalzell.Sally@epa.gov]; 'Lora Fry_Navy' [lora.fly@navy.mil]; 'Greg Naham_NCCCA' [ganconsultants@gmail.com]; 'Stan Carey_Mass-Water' [scarey@massapequawater.com]; info@bethpagecancerproject.com; aesposito@citizenscampaign.org; 'Mark Harrington' [mark.harrington@newsday.com]; Enck, Judith [Enck.Judith@epa.gov]; 'Steven Karpinshi_NYSDOH' [sxk23@health.state.ny.us]
**Subject:** RE: Comment RE: High radium levels shut Bethpage Water District well by EMILY C. DOOLEY Newsday 5/24/13 & NEWS12

Carmine, it is very unfair to say the BWD has no clue about the dangers of the radium issue. It was based on your emails that I encouraged the BWD to test for radionuclides. Based on what we found we immediately closed the wells. Your anger should be directed at the regulators who are the ones with no clue. We disclosed our test results to the regulators shortly after the test results were confirmed. Meetings with Nassau County and the State Boards of Health indicated that they had no real experience with radionuclide issues. The geniuses at the DEC told us we were over reacting and we shouldn't have closed the wells and that it was probably premature to report the test results. You, more than anyone else, know that testing of radionuclides in water is infrequent. The Federal guidelines for radium is 5. That's what we reported. The regulators have not asked us to do anything else regarding gross Gamma. Please tell me one water supplier that tests for gross Gamma. You can't, because none do. I am personally insulted when you say we don't understand the dangers of radionuclides. Since receiving your emails I have done significant research into the issue and advised the board of the dangers. That's why we tested, that's why we immediately closed the wells and notified the regulators. I am willing to bet that no other district has done as much as Bethpage regarding investigation of this issue. While it may not suit your agenda, we will continue to work with the regulators and we will not open the wells until we are certain that the water is not putting our residents at risk.

Further, although I have retired from the position of District counsel, I want you to keep me on your mailing list. I have read most of the materials you sent or provided links for and will continue to do so. You have been a great help to the BWD on this issue. But to blast them for taking heed of your concerns and testing when most others tell you it's not necessary is counter productive to the BWD and your cause. Believe it or not, I'm on your side; that's why we investigated.

Anthony J. Sabino, Esq.

**Address & Phone Number / Ex. 6**

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**From:** Carmine Vasile [mailto:gfx-ch@msn.com]
**Sent:** Friday, May 24, 2013 3:18 PM
**To:** Emily Dooley; Editor_NEWS12
**Cc:** Ethan Irwin; SANDRA ARCANGELO; Claudia Borecky; Phil Franco_2; Sally Dalzell, Esq_EPA; Lora Fry_Navy; Greg Naham_NCCCA; Anthony Sabino_Esq.; Stan Carey_Mass-Water; info@bethpagecancerproject.com; Adrienne Esposito; Mark Harrington; Judith Enck_EPA; Steven Karpinshi_NYSDOH
**Subject:** Comment RE: High radium levels shut Bethpage Water District well by EMILY C. DOOLEY Newsday 5/24/13 & NEWS12

Emily & News12 Editors: How would Bethpage Water District officials even know ***"the amount of radium does not exceed federal or state drinking water standards"*** when they never test for gross gamma rays from over 165 radionuclides regulated by the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1976, or its Amendment; the Radionuclides Rule of 2000?

Obviously, they have no clue about the dangers of radium-226 and radium-228, which have half-lives greater than one year and are of concern for Department of Energy environmental management sites. Radium-226 is a radioactive decay product in the uranium-238 decay series and is the precursor of radon-222. Radium-228 is a radioactive decay product in the thorium-232 decay series. Both isotopes give rise to many additional short-lived radionuclides, resulting in a wide spectrum of alpha, beta and gamma radiation. Lead-210, which has a 22-year half-life, is included in the list of short-lived radionuclides associated with radium-226 for completeness, as this isotope and its short-lived decay products are typically

present with radium-226. Radium-226 decays slowly (half-life of 1,600 years) by continually emitting alpha, beta & gamma radiation. Radium-228 has a much shorter half-life (5.8 years) and decays by emitting high energy beta particles. While radium-226 poses a hazard due to its long half-life, radium-228 poses a long term hazard if its parent (thorium-232) is present. [1]

Lead-210, the most toxic of all drinking water contaminants, is found in huge quantities in public wells south of Grumman's Calverton site --- over 3000x the maximum contaminant level of 4 mrem/yr for gross gamma + beta + x-ray activity. How much Lead-210 is in Bethpage's water supply remains a mystery. Additionally, radium-226 & radium-228 continually release two radioactive gases radon-222 & radon-220, which means Grumman's VOC's are radioactive, yet there are no tests, federal or state standards for radon – the second leading cause of lung cancer,

Why hasn't the EPA stepped in to protect the public???

Your truly,

Dr. Carmine F. Vasile

[1] "Radiological and Chemical Fact Sheets to Support Health Risk Analyses for Contaminated Areas", Argonne National Laboratory Environmental Science Division, John Peterson, et al.

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http://www.newsday.com/long-island/nassau/high-radium-levels-shut-bethpage-water-district-well-1.5328287?p=886531